



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
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# Press Release

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## **ATTORNEY GENERAL DARRELL MCGRAW RECEIVES SETTLEMENT FUNDS FROM THE MAKER OF TAXOL®**

Attorney General Darrell McGraw today announced that settlement funds in the amount of \$302,010 were received by his office from Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, the maker of Taxol®, a cancer-fighting prescription drug. The funds represent the damage to state agencies that either paid for or reimbursed payors for the drug. Consumers received funds directly from an earlier claims process.

The settlement resolved an antitrust case in federal District Court for the District of Columbia in which Attorney General McGraw joined the attorneys general of the other 49 states, the District of Columbia and U.S. territories. The states claimed Bristol-Myers Squibb unlawfully blocked the entry of less expensive generic drugs (paclitaxel) into the marketplace by obtaining patents that were later invalidated. In November 2003, the Court approved the settlement negotiated by the attorneys general on behalf of consumers in all the states and territories.

"The money recovered on behalf of the State will help hold down the high cost of prescription drugs in West Virginia," said Attorney General McGraw.

Individuals who filed valid claims also benefitted from the settlement. More than 200 claims were filed in West Virginia. Consumers received an average of \$550, for a total of approximately \$110,000.

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